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REPORT  
Of The  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1966

P. COGGIN BROWN, M. R. C. S., L. R. C. P., D.P.H.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health of the Rural District of Thingoe, in the County of West Suffolk, for the year ended 31st December, 1966.

1, Northgate Street,  
Bury St. Edmunds.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Public Health Service for the year 1966.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population showed a sharp decline after five consecutive years when increases were recorded.

The birth rate, the death rate and the infant mortality rate all showed rises compared with the previous year but only the latter compared unfavourably with the corresponding rate for England and Wales as a whole.

Apart from the occurrence of eighty-six cases of Measles the general incidence of infectious diseases was exceptionally low.

The appointment of a second Additional Public Health Inspector has enabled the increasing load of work to be shared and was much appreciated by your officers. This increase in the establishment has also made it possible for the work of the department to be conducted in a more orderly and systematic manner.

It is a pleasure to record that further progress has been made with the provision and extension of main sewerage in our villages but it is only fair to mention that there are still a number of villages which are in urgent need of this facility.

Further progress has been made with the clearance of unfit property and with the improvement of those houses which can be made fit.

Throughout the year your officers have maintained their efforts to promote food hygiene and to ensure the purity of food and drink offered for sale within the district.

My thanks are due to the members of my staff and especially to Mr. F. Holmes, your Chief Public Health Inspector, for his loyal support at all times and for his help in the compilation of this Report.

Finally, I should like to record my appreciation of the encouragement I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

P. COGGIN BROWN.

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor N.R. Whitwell, Chairman.

Councillor F.B. Clarke, Vice-Chairman.

Councillors

D.C. Barham	Mrs. L.A. Hudson
E.W. Bird	J.H.W. Last
H.H. Cawston	W.R. Mizen
L. Davison	*W.R. Rayner
Lady Marjorie Erskine	D.D. Shickle
R.F. Grimwood	C.J. Smith
*Rev. W.E. Harris	

\*Indicates Ex-Officio Member.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

P. COGGIN BROWN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

This officer holds in addition the following appointments:-

Assistant County Medical Officer	) West Suffolk County Council
School Medical Officer	)
Medical Officer of Health	- Borough of Bury St. Edmunds.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

F. HOLMES, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Meat and Other Foods Certificate R.S.H.

Nons. Dip. R.I.P.H. & H.

This officer is also appointed Inspector under the Petroleum and Explosives Acts.

Additional Public Health Inspectors.

A.H. TRANTUM, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H., Dip. H. ENG.

Meat and Other Foods Certificate R.S.H.

Health Engineering Certificate R.S.H.

Smoke Inspector's Certificate R.S.H.

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S.T. AARON, M.A.P.H.I., (Commenced duties 1st June, 1966)

Meat and Other Foods Certificate R.S.H.

Smoke Inspector's Certificate R.S.H.

Sanitary Science as applied to Building and Public Works Certificate R.S.H.

Tropical Hygiene Certificate R.S.H.

Clerk/Typist

MRS. J.E. JAMES

Rodent Operators

C.H.W. HOLDEN

H.V. MILLS



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GENERAL STATISTICS

Area . . . .106,739 acres

Registrar General's estimate	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1964</u>
of the resident population	21,410	22,120	22,060
Census 1961 (April)	20,070		
Rateable Value	£455,306	£436,310	£408,346
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£1,717	£1,754	£1,693

VITAL STATISTICS

POPULATION After five consecutive years when increases have been recorded the Registrar General's estimate of the population for 1966 showed a decrease of 710. The main cause of this decline is believed to be the closure of a service establishment within the district.

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	190	195	385
Illegitimate	8	13	21
	<u>198</u>	<u>208</u>	<u>406</u>

	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population	19.0	17.3
Corrected Birth Rate per 1,000 population	20.1	18.3
Birth Rate per 1,000 population England and Wales	17.7	18.1
Legitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births	94.8	95.8
Comparability factor for births	1.06	1.06

<u>STILLBIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1	3	4
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil
	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>	
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	9.8	23.6	
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births England and Wales	15.4	15.7	

BIRTHS The actual number of live births registered increased by twenty-four compared with the previous year, consequently there was a sharp increase in the birth rate, which when adjusted for the age and sex distribution of the population was substantially higher than that for England and Wales.as a whole.

<u>DEATHS</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	9.6	7.9
Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 population	11.0	8.9
Death Rate per 1,000 population England and Wales	11.7	11.5
Comparability factor for deaths	1.14	1.13

There was an increase of seventeen in the number of deaths compared with the previous year and this caused a rise in the death rate but the corrected rate still compared favourably with that for England and Wales. Increases occurred in the number of deaths from vascular lesions of the nervous system,from respiratory diseases and from heart and circulatory diseases. Six deaths occurred from cancer of the lung and a melancholy feature of the death returns was the loss of five lives by suicide. There were no deaths from maternal causes.



INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under one year of age	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	5	4	9
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	5	4	9

  

	1966	1965
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	22.2	18.4
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births England and Wales	19.0	19.0
Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	22.2	18.4

The actual number of deaths of infants under one year of age increased from seven in the previous year to nine in the year under review. This produced a rise in the infant mortality rate, but it should be emphasised that this rate must be expected to vary widely from year to year because the figure is based upon a relatively small number of births. Four of the infant deaths were caused by prematurity and three by congenital abnormalities, all occurred in the first week of life.

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS										
	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957
Birth Rate (corrected)	20.1	18.3	20.7	18.8	18.6	17.0	18.7	17.6	18.8	18.8
Death Rate (corrected)	11.0	8.9	9.8	10.9	8.8	8.9	9.6	8.4	9.0	10.4
Infant Mortality Rate	22.2	18.4	30.2	15.5	24.6	21.1	12.1	28.6	35.9	27.9
Number of Infant Deaths	9	7	13	6	9	7	4	9	12	12



The following table gives the causes and the numbers of deaths which occurred during 1966:-

Registrar General's Figures				
		Male	Female	
	1966	(1965)	1966	(1965)
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory.....	1	(-)	-	(-)
2. Tuberculosis, other.....	-	(-)	-	(-)
3. Syphilitic disease.....	-	(-)	-	(-)
4. Diphtheria.....	-	(-)	-	(-)
5. Whooping Cough.....	-	(-)	-	(-)
6. Meningococcal infection.....	-	(-)	-	(-)
7. Acute poliomyelitis.....	-	(-)	-	(-)
8. Measles.....	-	(-)	-	(-)
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases.....	1	(-)	-	(-)
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	3	(5)	1	(-)
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.....	6	(10)	-	(1)
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	-	(-)	4	(4)
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	-	(-)	1	(1)
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.....	10	(7)	6	(7)
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia.....	1	(-)	-	(-)
16. Diabetes.....	1	(1)	2	(2)
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system.....	15	(15)	20	(13)
18. Coronary disease, angina.....	17	(15)	15	(14)
19. Hypertension with heart disease.....	-	(1)	2	(-)
20. Other heart disease.....	10	(10)	9	(10)
21. Other circulatory disease.....	3	(4)	5	(6)
22. Influenza.....	-	(-)	-	(2)
23. Pneumonia.....	12	(9)	8	(3)
24. Bronchitis.....	7	(4)	3	(1)
25. Other diseases of respiratory system.....	1	(2)	1	(-)
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.....	-	(-)	2	(1)
27. Gastritis.....	-	(1)	1	(1)
28. Nephritis and nephrosis.....	-	(-)	-	(-)
29. Hyperplasia of prostate.....	1	(1)	-	(-)
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.....	-	(-)	-	(-)
31. Congenital malformations.....	4	(2)	1	(1)
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases.....	9	(4)	14	(7)
33. Motor vehicle accidents.....	3	(1)	-	(1)
34. All other accidents.....	1	(4)	-	(1)
35. Suicide.....	4	(1)	1	(-)
36. Homicide and operations of war.....	-	(-)	-	(-)

# PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year. These are the final numbers after corrections made either by the notifying Medical Practitioner or by the Medical Superintendent of the Infectious Diseases Hospital.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Measles .....	40	46	86
Tuberculosis.....		1	1

## T U B E R C U L O S I S

### NEW CASES AND MORTALITY

#### NEW CASES

	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958
Pulmonary	1	3	5	2	7	5	3	1	5
Non-Pulmonary	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	1

#### Ages of cases notified during 1966:-

Pulmonary: Female 24.

Non-Pulmonary: Nil

The number of new cases of Tuberculosis notified decreased from 3 in the previous year to 1 in the year under review.

MORTALITY One death occurred from Tuberculosis during the year.

### TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER

	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1. Cases at 1st January, 1966	18	21	2	1	20	22
2. Notified first in 1966	-	1	-	-	-	1
3. Restored to Register	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Added by Transfers	-	1	-	-	-	1
5. Cases removed from Register	1	1	-	-	1	1
6. Remaining at 31st December, 1966	17	22	2	1	19	23



## CLINICS

Infant Welfare Clinics were held in Thingoe Rural District at the following centres:

Barrow	Village Hall	4th Friday afternoon.
Chedburgh	Church Hall	2nd Friday afternoon.
Honington	Sick Quarters R.A.F.	1st and 3rd Tuesday afternoons
Ingham	Village Hall	2nd Tuesday afternoon.
Ixworth	Village Hall	3rd Tuesday afternoon.
Rougham	The School Hut	4th Thursday afternnon.
Stanton	Shepherds Hall	2nd Tuesday afternoon.

The above Clinics and other Health and Welfare Services were provided by the West Suffolk County Council.



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### WORK OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS.

#### 1. GENERAL

##### Staff

The Council considered the staffing of the department early in the year and approved the appointment of a second Additional Public Health Inspector. There was a poor response to wide advertising but the Council were fortunate in being able to appoint Mr. S.T. Aaron, an Inspector with wide experience and already resident in the district. Mr. Aaron took up his duties on 1st June.

This appointment has enabled the department to complete inspection of all premises registered under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act and make good progress on the resurvey of sub-standard properties at the end of the first five years of the current Housing Programme.

##### Legislation.

This has been a year when much existing legislation has been under critical examination and there is no doubt that much of our present Law is in need of amendment and tidying up. Housing standards and enforcement legislation in particular is in need of amendment and it is understood that this is being considered. Whilst hasty alteration is unwise those concerned with administration would welcome early amendment to enable long term planning of programmes but with the whole structure of Local Government in the melting pot this seems unlikely.

New Regulations concerning Slaughterhouse hygiene and the control of hours of slaughter were introduced during the year. The Council decided not to impose restrictions on the two butchers in the district but to request their voluntary co-operation in limiting their hours to those hours worked by the Inspectors. This has reduced the work outside normal office hours to some degree.

##### Public Conveniences.

The Council's suggested sites on the major traffic routes through the district were not considered suitable for Grant aid and it is with regret that no progress can be reported.



	Number on Register at 31.12.66	Number of		Occupiers Prosecuted
		Inspections	Written Notices	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4,6, and 7 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	6	6	1	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	59	38	8	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (*excl. Outworkers premises)	9	6	4	Nil
TOTALS	74	50	13	Nil

\*i.e. Electrical Stations (Section 123 (i)), Institutions (Section 124) and sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Section 127)

Cases in which Defects were found.

	Number of cases in which Defects were found				No.of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Reported		
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Insufficient Sanitary Conveniences (s.7)	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unsuitable or defective	7	3	Nil	1	Nil
Want of cleanliness	4	3	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act not including Outworkers	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTALS	13	6	Nil	1	Nil

OUTWORK

Nature of Work	No of Outworkers in August list required by Section 133	No. of cases of default in sending lists to Council	Unsatisfactory premises Section (134)
Wearing apparel (Making etc.)	1	Nil	Nil
Making boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper (firework cases)	33	Nil	Nil



# TABLE OF INSPECTIONS

Premises Inspected	Total Inspections	
	1966	(1965)
<u>Housing:</u>		
Condemned Properties.....	72	55
Survey and Classification.....	1766	228
Defects and Nuisances.....	73	71
Improvement Grants.....	155	224
Rent Acts.....	2	-
Overcrowding.....	5	5
Drainage.....	76	213
Applications for Council Houses.....	46	35
<u>Food Premises:</u>		
Meat Inspection.....	159	208
Butchers.....	9	14
Bakers.....	5	10
General Stores.....	82	98
Fried Fish.....	5	6
Cafes and Catering Premises.....	9	7
Mobile Shops.....	17	8
Licensed Premises.....	15	71
Unsound Foodstuffs.....	9	6
Dairies.....	3	4
Schools.....	4	4
Ice Cream Premises.....	9	19
<u>Caravans:</u>		
Caravans and Caravan Sites.....	76	92
<u>Rats and Mice:</u>		
Tips.....	12	14
Sewers and Sewage Works.....	4	6
General.....	1	28
Contracts.....	4	6
<u>Factories:</u>		
Powered Factories.....	50	7
Non-powered Factories.....	1	5
Outworkers.....	1	1
<u>Petroleum:</u>		
Inspection of installations (including tank tests).....	57	42
Interviews:.....	446	440
<u>Infectious Diseases</u> .....	9	19
<u>Problem Families</u> .....	5	9
<u>Poultry Dressers</u> .....	2	2
<u>Smoke Abatement</u> .....	2	7
<u>Explosives</u> .....	6	17
<u>Agricultural Properties (Safety, Health and Welfare)</u> .....	9	2
<u>Show Grounds and Fairs</u> .....	4	2
<u>Keeping of Animals</u> .....	3	13
<u>Water Supply</u> .....	153	135
<u>Ponds, Pools and Ditches</u> .....	47	36
<u>Bathing Places</u> .....	5	4
<u>Verminous Premises</u> .....	2	4
<u>Other Nuisances</u> .....	23	51
<u>Flooding</u> .....	2	5
<u>Sewer Connections and Rail Conversions</u> .....	10	23
<u>Insect Infestations</u> .....	21	17
<u>Lectures</u> .....	3	3
<u>Noise Abatement</u> .....	2	7
<u>Animal Boarding Establishments</u> .....	15	10
<u>Disinfection for Export (Clothes)</u> .....	-	1
<u>Hairdressers</u> .....	1	3
<u>Offices, Shops and Railway Premises</u> .....	57	74
<u>Swimming Pools</u> .....	26	-



## 2. PRIVATE WATER SUPPLIES

Attention was again given to the quality of private water supplies and the statistics which follow indicate the progress made. Details of individual supply from the mains to dwellings Parish by Parish are not available as this Authority are no longer responsible for water engineering.

<u>Bacteriological Examination Results</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>
Number of samples taken during the year	47	51
Number of properties served	77	81
Number of satisfactory samples	26	22
Number of unsatisfactory samples	21	29
Number of samples tested for Nitrate - satisfactory	--	1
- unsatisfactory	1	-
Chemical samples - satisfactory	1	
- unsatisfactory	-	

### Unsatisfactory Samples

<u>Number of Samples</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
3	Mains connected.
2	Negotiations in hand for mains supply.
5	Satisfactory after works carried out.
6	Works to be carried out.
1	Authority for Statutory Notice.
5	Properties to be dealt with as unfit.

## 3. OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

The following statistics are extracted from the Annual Report to the Minister of Labour on Form O.S.R. 14.

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Total Number of registered premises at the end of the year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	6	31	13
Retail Shops	5	27	7
Wholesale shops, Warehouses	Nil	1	Nil
Catering establishments open to Public. Canteens	1	9	4
Fuel storage depots	2	2	2

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

CLASS OF WORKPLACE	NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED
Offices	109
Retail Shops	78
Wholesale departments, warehouses	95
Catering establishments open to the public	25
Canteens	1
Fuel storage depots	9
Total	317
Total Males	209
Total Females	108

It became clear during the year that several people were still being employed on unregistered premises and although some were found during routine inspections there may well be others. It is known that small businesses are being run from private houses but this does not exempt the employer from his obligation to register.

4. CARAVANS.

	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>
Number of licensed sites at 31st December.	38	39
Number of caravans licensed on these sites.	161	161
Number of exempted sites at 31st December	12	13
Maximum number of caravans on exempted sites	34	32
Number of applications for new licences received during the year	11	11
Number of applications for new licences approved during the year	9	7
Number of 'vans approved on such sites	10	7
Numbers of applications for site licences refused during the year	3	5
Number of sites discontinued during the year.	9	10

The number of caravans in use in the area remains fairly static and there are adequate vacancies on licensed sites to satisfy the demand although these sites are some distance from centres of employment.

Itinerant agricultural workers operating seasonally within the district are reasonably well catered for and have caused no problems during the year.



Permanent residential sites are attracting more side by side twin 'vans, many of which are moved by transporters. These units are constantly improving in design but it is becoming more and more difficult to agree that they are caravans within the accepted definition rather than semi-mobile bungalows which should be dealt with under the Building Regulations. The trend is likely to continue and consideration of the administrative problems of the future could be instituted now with benefit.

#### 5. SWIMMING BATHS AND NATURAL BATHING PLACES.

In recent years there has been an increasing demand for swimming facilities and this is to be encouraged. Whilst there are no public facilities in the area increasing activity by parent teacher organisations has resulted in two schools obtaining pools and more are on the way. Regular checks of swimming bath water were made during the season by the Palin DPD method of free and total chlorine and pH values. The tests revealed rather alarming results on occasions. Whilst the readings for total chlorine appeared satisfactory the free chlorine was often far from satisfactory as was the variation in pH values (degree of acidity). The main faults were inadequate instruction of teachers and others in charge that free chlorine must always be available in a swim pool, and the provision of inadequate testing equipment. The responsibilities attached to these pools should not be accepted lightly but this department is ready to help with advice for anyone who builds a swim pool.

The need for vigilance on natural waters was proved during the year when a sudden increase in pollution was detected in the river at Knettishall. Plans were under consideration for the construction of a Lido at this popular picnic spot. The safety of the water for this purpose had hardly been in question as samples over the years had given consistently good results but almost overnight the picture changed. This was due amongst other things to a breakdown at the Knettishall sewage works which, although sited over a mile away, discharges effluent to a contributory stream.

The County Council erected a warning notice on the bank immediately the situation was brought to their notice but clearly any future use of this river for bathing should be discouraged. These waters are no longer safe for bathing.

At one other bathing place on a river it was found that agricultural seed which had been over treated with chemicals had been deposited in the river. The dangers to bathers from possible pollution by sewage or chemicals cannot be disregarded.



## 6. PRIVATE DRAINAGE.

Despite financial restriction throughout the Country the Council have wisely made further progress with main sewerage provision. This has enabled many nuisances of long standing to be abated but there are still many properties to be connected Those which are causing nuisance which have not been connected to the sewer voluntarily are being dealt with under Section 39 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Many parishes in which nuisances have been experienced for many years remain to be sewered. With the increasing development of the area and the pressure for planning approvals in the unsewered areas it is likely that some parishes which so far have not had urgent need of sewers will fall into this category. The parishes likely to be affected in the next few years include:-

Fakenham Magna. Ixworth Thorpe. Lackford. Bradfield St. George.

Timworth. Westley. Wepstead. Hawstead.

Those already having limited facilities which will require extension include:

Chedburgh. Chevington. Stanton.

Some of the above parishes are included in schemes now under consideration and are referred to in the section of this Report submitted by the Engineer and Surveyor.

## 7. RADIOACTIVITY.

### Radioactive Substances Act, 1960.

There has been no extensive use of radioactive materials in the area and no waste disposed of on the Council tips as far as is known.

One certificate to store, use and dispose of material was issued by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government under Sections 1 and 8 of the above Act. This related to material containing not more than 20 millicuries of phosphorus 32 for experimental purposes.

## 8. PETROLEUM

Number of premises licensed during 1966	146
(Total quantity stored	162,750 gallons)
Number of new tanks installed	10
Number of tanks discontinued	6
Number of licences transferred during the year	4
Existing tanks tested and found to be satisfactory	1
Tanks reinstated and found to be satisfactory	4

There were no accidents or fires reported on licensed premises during the year and no infringements found which were not corrected on request.

9. EXPLOSIVES

Sixteen Licences were issued for the storage of fireworks in retail premises and no contraventions were found. The gelignite store in the area was discontinued.

10. INSECT AND OTHER INFESTATIONS.

Wasps and swarming flies (Autumnalis) gave rise to a greater number of complaints the majority of which were dealt with by the occupiers. Those dealt with by the department were:

Fleas	1	Flies	1
Bees	1	Wasps	13
Hornets	1	Cockroaches	2
Bats		2	

These were dealt with by the Rodent Control staff and were charged for on a time and material basis. Wasps nests are dealt with at a standard charge of ten shillings.

11. RODENT CONTROL

Greater attention was paid to open land, hedges and ditches during the year as it is here that the rats are breeding and continuing to maintain a national problem from year to year. Three cases of Weils Disease in the Eastern Counties caused the public to take greater interest in the problem and this interest was fed with press articles. The problem still remains of how to maintain the public interest for more than a few days.

The work of Mr. Holden and Mr. Mills is summarised here in statistics but the problems behind the statistics cannot be fully explained in a report of this nature. Their helpful attitude to the public is gratefully acknowledged.

PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in district	6,177	1,152
2.(a) Total number of properties(including nearby premises) inspected following notification	259	66
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	186	38
(ii) Mice	27	3
3.(a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	580	3
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	24	2
(ii) Mice	2	-
4. Number of sewers infested by rats during the year	1	

The above table is an extract taken from the Annual Report to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.



# INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

## 1. FOOD PREMISES AND FOOD HYGIENE.

The number of premises by type as at 31st December was as follows:

General Stores	62	Butchers	7
Greengrocers	-	Bakers	2
Confectionary	7	Cafes	2
Guest Houses	1	Meat Manufacturers	1
Licensed Premises	49	Licensed Clubs	13
Factory Canteens	5	Day School Kitchens	7
Boarding Schools 3			

The reduction in numbers of premises continues as shopping habits change and the only increase is in canteens. The figures for day schools (serve and wash up) have been omitted this year as most schools now have meals delivered and the dirty crockery returned to cooking centres for washing.

A survey of deep freeze and frozen food cabinets carried out during the year revealed a wide range of operating temperatures. In many cases cabinets were as much as 10°F above the acceptable level despite the owners having maintenance contracts. The positioning of many of the cabinets had had little forethought. Heat dissipation is essential to economy and efficiency and many cabinets were so placed as to be in full sunlight or in corners with limited airflows. This had resulted in the motors running for excessive periods and as an economy the settings had been altered so as to cut out the motors too soon for the correct temperatures to be reached thus defeating the object of the machine.

## 2. UN SOUND FOOD

In addition to the discovery from time to time of 'blown tins' three complaints of unsound food were investigated.

### (1) Glass in Milk.

A small child discovered slivers of glass in a tumbler of milk.

Investigation showed that the neck of the delivery bottle had been fractured and the fragments held in place by the aluminium foil cap until opened.

It was impossible to determine at what stage the accident happened but this incident shows once again the danger of the use of any breakable container for foodstuffs.

### (2) Mouldy Meat Pies.

Two meat pies had been produced and delivered some 300 miles under ideal conditions and maintained at low temperature until delivered to the retailer. They had then been exposed for sale under conditions far from ideal and had quickly developed mould. The premises concerned were outside



the district but co-operation between health departments is generally excellent and in this case a thorough investigation and full report followed our telephone call.

(3) Fruit Moth in Sweets.

A very heavy infestation of sweets with the larvae of the Ephestia moth was found as the result of a complaint. Thorough cleansing and disinfestation of the premises concerned was carried out and the whole of the delivery chain examined by the producing Company. Improvements in stock circulation were instituted at the suggestion of your officers.

No proceedings were instituted in any case.

3. MEAT INSPECTION.

All carcasses killed in the area were inspected. Two Slaughterhouse Licences were issued and three slaughtermen licensed.

Cattle

1 Liver (bacterial necrosis)  
1 pt. Liver (necrosis)  
4 Livers (abscesses)  
2 pt. Livers (abscesses)  
5 Livers (mult. abscesses)  
1 Liver (fascioliasis)  
1 Set Lungs (fascioliasis)  
1 Head and Tongue (c. bovis)  
1 Heart (c. bovis)  
1 Set Lungs (pneumonia)  
1 pt. Kidney (nephritis)  
1 Set Intestines and Mesenteric Fat (calcified deposits)  
1 pt. Liver (distoma)  
1 Set Lungs, Guts and Tongue (neoplasms)

Sheep

2 Livers (parasites)  
1 Heart (c. ovis)

Pigs

1. Hock (deformity and sinovitis)  
1 Set Lungs, Heart and Skirt (peritonitis  
pericarditis and pleurisy)  
1 Head and Guts (tuberculosis)  
3 Kidneys (cystic)  
5 Sets Lungs (pleurisy)  
2 Sets Lungs (pneumonia)  
4 Livers (ascaris lumbricoides)  
3 pt. Lungs (pneumonia)  
2 Sets Guts (oedema)  
1 Heart and Lungs (pericarditis)  
1 Heart and Lungs (pleurisy and pericarditis)

10 Hearts (pericarditis)  
1 Set Guts (c. equi)  
4 Livers (bact. necrosis)  
1 Liver (peritonitis and hepatitis)  
1 Liver (cirrhosis)  
1 Pluck and Mesentery (adhesions)  
1 Set Lungs (c. equi)  
1 Liver (abscesses)  
1 pt. Liver (resolved abscesses)  
3 Livers (parasites)

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lanbs	Pigs
Number killed (All were inspected)	157	Nil	Nil *	80	230
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some organ or part was condemned	19	Nil	Nil	4	46
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	12.1%	0%	0%	5.0%	20.0%
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some organ or part was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0%	0%	0%	0%	.9%
<u>Cysticercosis Only</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

No horses or animals other than those shown above are slaughtered in the area.

4. MILK AND DAIRIES.

There is still considerable quantity of unpasteurised milk being sold but there were no confirmed or suspected cases of milk borne infection notified during the year.



1. CLEARANCE OF UNFIT PROPERTY

Progress in the year was steady rather than spectacular with 38 properties being represented. Of these 27 were closed and 1 was rendered fit. Some of the properties were vacant on representation as it is the policy to attempt to deal with unfit properties when they become vacant and so cause as little personal inconvenience as possible.

Progress as shown in the form required by the Minister was as follows:-

Clearance Progress, 1966

How dealt with	Number Demolished	
A. Individual Unfit Properties (Demolition Orders)	16	
	Number Closed	<u>Number of Families Rehoused</u>
B. Closing Orders	20	22
C. Rendered fit under Public Health and Housing Acts.	56	
D. Unfit Houses Retained for temporary Use	2	
E. Purchased by Council	Nil	

Work on modernisation was delayed to some extent by the financial "freeze" but the demand by outsiders for the country cottage for week-end occupation seems to continue unabated. The value placed on lower category properties for this purpose seems to have no limit but one wonders whether the laws of supply and demand have not distorted true values.

2. NEW BUILDING.(a) Council

Due to delays in completion from previous programmes the total of new properties built was 63. The new housing programme for 1966/7 was agreed at 49. The policy of concentrating building at key villages was again followed with slight exceptions.

(b) Private

The upward trend in private building continues including several speculative sites. The effects of town expansion in Bury St. Edmunds are being reflected in the countryside but this expansion also puts

pressures on other Local Government services including the Health Department.

### 3. MODERNISATION

#### (a) Council

Despite a full programme of modernisation only seven dwellings were completed during the year. Several others were commenced but not completed during the year to which this report relates.

#### (b) Private

The demand for better facilities was only slightly dulled by rising costs and the "credit squeeze". Grants were eagerly sought but still many preferred to ignore them and carry out the work themselves.

	<u>Approved</u>	<u>Completed</u>
Discretionary Grants	15	24
Standard Grants	39	35
Closet Conversions	9	9

Of the many applications received especially for Standard Grants several were in respect of week-end cottages. Some applicants have peculiar ideas on what is a fit property and some proposals have had to be rejected before submission. Whilst it is appreciated that a house improved is a house saved is it really the intention to give public money to support summer week-end occupation only ?

### 4. OVERCROWDING

Cases on Register at 1st January, 1966	6
New Cases	2
Families rehoused by Thingoe R.D.C.	0*
Families rehoused privately	1
Families left the district	0
Remaining on Register at 31st December, 1966	7

\*This figure does not take into account the number of families rehoused from Council owned properties where the bedroom standard is applied in assessing need.



## SANITARY SERVICES

This information has been supplied by:-

S.M.CASSON, M.I.MUN.E., A.M.I.P.H.E.,

ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR

### 1. SEWERAGE.

As reported last year three schemes were under construction during 1966 and all were in operation by the end of the year. These were for the villages of Horringer, Fornham St. Martin and Great Saxham.

No further progress was made at Pakenham due entirely to the fact that the negotiations with the neighbouring Council of Thedwastre continued throughout the year with a view to discharging the effluent from Pakenham into that Council's Sewage Works. The scheme as far as the village of Pakenham itself is concerned, however, was largely completed.

A contract was let for the sewerage of the villages of Troston and Great Livermere and work commenced on this scheme during March. By the end of 1966 some 85% of the scheme had been completed but the pumping station was not yet in operation.

A further scheme was prepared and commenced in November, that being for the sewerage of the village of Market Weston. This is likely to be completed in the summer of 1967.

In the meantime schemes have been in the course of preparation viz: schemes for the villages of

- (i) Hargrave and Chevington.
- (ii) Bradfield St George - Rougham Green.
- (iii) The grouping of Ixworth, Bardwell and Stanton into one works.
- (iv) Hawstead, Brockley and Wepstead.

By the end of the year most of these schemes were ready to present to the Minister with a view to commencing works on some of them during the summer of 1967.

Pressure on villages around Bury St. Edmunds has meant that the Council has needed to consider the enlargement of sewage works and also in the pipeline is an enlargement scheme for the sewage works at Barrow, as this works is grossly overloaded at the moment having been built in 1950, for a comparatively small population, and it is hoped that during 1967 an enlargement scheme will be commenced.

Due to the growth of the village of Great Whelnetham it became necessary to enlarge the small sewage plant provided there in 1950. This work was undertaken and completed before the end of the year.

## 2. REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The refuse collection system continued to operate satisfactorily throughout the year as in previous years. However, the experiment of fitting one vehicle with semi-dustless loading apparatus did not prove to be completely successful. Whilst the method made the work lighter for the operators, it was much slower than the ordinary method of discharging the bins into the rear of the Pakamatic vehicle and furthermore the rate of wear on moving parts was much too high involving not only considerable expense but delay. Consequently, the apparatus was removed during the year and both vehicles are now 50 yard Pakamatics with rear loading lines into the open trough.

Consideration was again given to the question of back door collection and a report was made to the Council on this subject. In the light of all the circumstances the Council did not feel that this was the time to pursue additional expenditure in this direction and will no doubt reconsider the matter at a later date.





